



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

In re Application of
Paul A. Crawford
Application No. 10/008,106
Filed: November 9, 2001
For: PUP JOINT WITH INTEGRAL WING
NUT RETENTION SHOULDER

DECISION ON PETITION
TO ACCEPT A
LATE COMMUNICATION

This is in response to applicant's communication filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), on September 12, 2002. This communication is being treated as a petition to accept a late communication under 37 CFR 1.181. There is no fee for this petition.

The petition is GRANTED.

A review of the file record indicates that a non-final rejection setting a three month shortened statutory period was mailed to the applicant on September 3, 2002.

The applicant has submitted, on September 12, 2002, a copy of an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), which includes a signed Certificate of Mail having a mail date of February 20, 2002. A statement attesting to the timely mailing of the correspondence by Mark Garrett is also included. This is acceptable evidence to accord the IDS the date of February 20, 2002.

Since an IDS was properly filed prior to the mail date of the Office action of September 3, 2002 and was not considered in the creation of that Office action, that Office action is hereby VACATED. The application is being forwarded to the Supervisory Legal Instruments Examiner for entry of the IDS filed with the petition, and then to the Examiner for a new non-final Office action on the merits.

Telephone inquiries relative to this decision should be directed to Special Programs Examiner Steven Meyers at (703) 308-3868.

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